

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** September 13, 2006

**Inspector:** Lee Curtis

**Location:** Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane, 345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Rainfall reporting by NOAA appears to have been interrupted and incomplete since the last inspection.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station 9/13/06. -All areas are either being restored or scheduled. 9/13/06.	- If any areas still have ruts during the restoration work, they will need to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8/05-9/13/06.	-Not Applicable (N/A) until evaluation at the end of work.
<b>Composite</b>	- Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-9/13/06.	-See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 9/13/06.	- Still needs attention.
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	- Erosion on the access road has caused stone to spill over the silt fence further down-gradient. 8/17-9/13/06. A meeting was held this week to discuss restoration activities. 9/13/06. - Work areas are accessed from various roadways. Restoration is widespread in this	-This is adjacent to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> wetland crossing and will have to be pulled back and repaired again. 8/17-9/13/06. Stormwater diversions will be likely. - If muddy conditions re-occur, place more wood chips or provide stormwater diversion. 9/13/06.	- Needs attention (options discussed at meeting).  - Restoration is underway

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Norwalk Section	<p>section. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Erosion continues along the access road near structure #31 but haybales seem to be containing sediment. 7/19-9/13/06. Reese is still storing equipment near structure #31. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Controls at Bethel water building were in good shape. However, Webb Rd has received significant storm run-off from Nashville Rd ext. 7/12-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Minor sediment tracking was noted in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north. 8/30-9/13/06.</p> <p>-Mats remain in good condition over the wetlands in this section. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-Several wetlands are matted to the south of Kent Rd. Haybales are still in place at the wash out areas along the access road. 8/30-9/13/06.</p> <p>-Vehicles have tracked through the restored area adjacent to the bike path between Broad Street and the Norwalk Substation. 9/7-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Flow from Webb Rd during rain events is not project related but it is washing out the road with each storm 7/5-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed 7/19-9/13/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Continue to maintain erosion controls at the areas that continuously wash out. 7/12-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Contractors should restore this area as part of the final restoration efforts. 9/7-9/13/06</p>	<p>-Look into more permanent solutions.</p> <p>- Evaluate road condition</p> <p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>- Needs attention</p>
Line Construction Composite	<p>- Line work is complete within the Archers Lane and Gallows Hill ROW sections. A meeting was</p>	<p>- None at this time. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>  Line Construction continued	held this week to discuss restoration efforts. 9/13/06.		
	- Line work is complete within the Bethel Reservoir, Chestnut Ridge, John Todd Way, and Costa Lane ROW sections. Restoration efforts continue. 9/13/06.	- Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/13/06	- Restoration efforts noted.
	-Hay mulch and seed has been applied to the disturbed areas along the ROW from pole #21 to pole #11 near Bethel Reservoir. 9/13/06.	-None at this time. 9/13/06.	-Restoration efforts noted.
	-Hay mulch and seed has been applied to the area at structure #10. Vehicles have tracked through a portion of the restored area. 9/13/06.	- Contractors should repair this area as part of the final restoration efforts. 9/13/06.	- Restoration efforts noted. Still needs attention.
	-Restoration efforts appear to be complete within the ROW off Chestnut Ridge Road. 9/13/06.	-None at this time. 9/13/06.	- Restoration efforts noted.
	- Crews were applying seed and hay mulch at Structures #23 and #24 within the ROW off John Todd Way during the inspection. Restoration activities were complete at Structures #22 and #25 (off Lime Kiln Road). 9/13/06.	-None at this time. 9/13/06.	Restoration efforts noted.
	-No active work was noted in the ROW off Costa Lane this week. 9/13/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-NA
<b>Norwalk Section</b>	-Wire pulling is	-None at this time. 9/13/06.	-NA

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	<p>essentially complete and all rider poles have been removed in this section. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Crews were dead ending wire at structure #11048 and clipping at #11049. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-Crews were also clipping wire at structure #11063 and along the ROW at Kent Road south. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- With the exception of the areas at structures #11063 and #11064, all old foundations have been removed from the ROW at Broad Street, Kent Road, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road. The concrete filled dumpsters have been removed in some areas. Crews were removing the old foundation at #11064 at the time of inspection. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-Pieces of wire were removed from the overflow channel at structure #11081 9/13/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-Remove all dumpsters when work is complete. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-NA</p> <p>-Wire was removed from overflow channel.</p>
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p><b>Composite</b></p>	<p>- Although controls upgradient of the 2<sup>nd</sup> wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road were repaired, additional run-off caused stone to pile over the fence again. 8/22-9/13/06. A meeting was held this week to discuss restoration efforts. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been</p>	<p>- Controls should be maintained as necessary and the stone has to be pulled back from the wetland. More permanent diversion measures will be needed. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the</p>	<p>-Options were discussed at the meeting</p> <p>-Still needs attention</p>

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<p><b>345kV H-Frame</b></p> <p>Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.</p>	<p>blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-9/13/06. Several areas with deep wood chips off the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane at #42 and between #43-44. 3/15-9/13/06.</p>	<p>ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out, including areas immediately off the ROW. 4/6-9/13/06.</p>	<p>(Options discussed at the meeting)</p>
	<p>- The controls at structure #34 off Gallows Hill remain in good condition but the surrounding area is bare of vegetation. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) were noted along the ROW in the Bethel Reservoir and Chestnut Ridge Road Sections. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-The entire stockpile at structure#6 has been removed and the area restored. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-The area around structure #9 had re-vegetated, but a new area of disturbance remains upgradient of the pole 8/30-9/13/06.</p> <p>- The areas adjacent to poles #10-11, have been disturbed although some tracking was noted in a restored area. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) were noted along the ROW off John Todd Way and Lime Kiln Road. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- The area should be restored and vegetated 9/13/06.</p> <p>-Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/13/06</p> <p>- None at this time. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-The exposed soil should be restored and vegetated. Although it does not appear that sediment is entering the road from this area, silt fence may be necessary. 8/30-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Contractors should repair this area as part of the final restoration efforts. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and ensure that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Needs attention when feasible.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts are noted</p> <p>- Stockpile was removed and area restored.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts noted. Still needs attention.</p> <p>- Needs attention (even though the majority of the damage is not project related.)</p> <p>-Restoration efforts are noted.</p>
<p>Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way</p>			

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<p><b>Norwalk Section</b></p> <p>Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.</p> <p>Kent Rd. (North – new ROW section)</p> <p>Kent Rd. (South)</p>	<p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion has returned, despite the haybales. 7/19-9/13/06. Reese is storing equipment near structure #31. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Keep all stone/sediment from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-9/7/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to evaluate.</p>
	<p>- The ROW off Perry Ave has been re-graded but has not been seeded. 9/7-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-This area should be restored/seeded as soon as possible since it washes out regularly. 7/19-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>
	<p>- The area near pole #11080 at the substation remains fairly bare of vegetation 8/17-9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Restore the adjacent area with vegetation to reduce potential run-off, even if it is temporarily. 6/7-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p>
	<p>- The stone access pad north of Kent Rd may still need some cleanup; there was minor sediment tracking in the road. 8/17-9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Continue to maintain and sweep the street when necessary. Improve pad if needed. 7/19-9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Needs attention</p>
	<p>- Silt fence remains along both banks of the stream and near the foundation at the pond in the Kent Rd north section. 7/19-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- N/A at this time</p>
	<p>- The majority of the silt fence was in good condition along the Kent Rd south ROW. Silt fence at structure #11057 is deteriorating and should be monitored. 9/7-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to repair and reinforce controls. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Haybales were placed at wash out areas.</p>
	<p>- Hay bales remain in place at wash out areas along the access road. 9/13/06. Some stone remains beyond the erosion controls. 8/17-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to repair and reinforce controls. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Needs some attention</p>

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<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation <b>Composite</b></p> <p><b>345kV H-Frame</b></p> <p><b>Norwalk Section</b></p>	<p>-The D&amp;M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric will be removed shortly. 9/13/06.</p> <p>-A meeting was held this week to discuss restoration efforts. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- The stockpile was removed at structure #6 and the area adjacent to the wetland restored. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Non-project related vehicles had not returned to the wetland between #10-11 but damage remains. Vegetative growth has increased 8/17-9/13/06.</p> <p>-Pieces of wire left within the overflow channel at structure #11081 have now been removed. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- The stone will be removed and the road will be graded with waterbars to avoid erosion and future run-off. Silt fence will be removed and replaced with haybales in appropriate locations. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- None at this time. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- Haybales should be added across the access road on both side of the wetland to reduce sedimentation. 5/25-9/13/06.</p> <p>-None at this time. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>-Options were discussed</p> <p>- Stockpile was removed and restoration efforts noted.</p> <p>-Needs attention (the majority of disturbance is from non project related vehicles)</p> <p>-Wire was removed from the overflow channel.</p>
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<p>- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-9/13/06.</p> <p>-An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure #7 in the Chestnut Ridge Rd section on 6/14/06.</p>	<p>- Now that weather is warmer, daily walkthroughs should be occurring prior to any work in the area. 4/6-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-9/13/06.</p>	<p>-N/A at this time</p> <p>-N/A</p>
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees)	- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other	-Replace shrubs where approved during these restoration efforts. 9/13/06.	-Needs attention when feasible

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<p>noted)</p> <p><b>Composite</b></p> <p><b>345kV H-Frame</b></p>	<p>shrubs. 3/2-9/13/06.</p> <p>- A significant amount of chips were blown off the ROW into the upland and also along the wetland edge at the 3<sup>rd</sup> structure off Gallows Hill. These areas are off property. 2/22-9/13/06.</p> <p>-This was also noted several structures past Archers Lane. 3/15-9/13/06.</p> <p>- Widespread restoration efforts were noted as work areas are seeded and mulched with hay. 9/13/06</p>	<p>- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&amp;M plan. 2/22-8/30/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-9/13/06.</p> <p>- None at this time 9/7/06.</p>	<p>- Still needs attention CL&amp;P is looking into this.</p> <p>-Restoration was noted.</p>
Dewatering	<p>- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 3/9-9/13/06.</p>	-N/A at this time
Blasting	<p>-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 9/13/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 9/13/06.</p>	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	<p>-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 9/13/06.</p> <p>- In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 9/13/06</p>	<p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site</p> <p>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> <p>- Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.</p>	-NA



Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Additional Observations			

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday September 22, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for Lee Curtis



**(Composite Section):** Photo on the left shows the large pile of wood chips remaining in the ROW past Archers Lane between structures #43-44. Photo on the right shows a view of the third wetland crossing. A meeting was held this week to discuss restoration efforts. 9/13/06.



**(345kV H-Frame):** Photo on the left shows the area near structure #11 where the stockpile was removed and hay and seed was applied. Photo on the right shows a portion of the restored area at structure #10 where vehicle tracks were noted. 9/13/06.





**Photo on the right shows the restored area at structure #6 in the ROW off Chestnut Ridge Road. The stockpile has been completely removed. Photo on the left shows a view of the restoration efforts along the ROW for this section. 9/13/06.**



**Photo on the left shows the restored area near structure #25 off Lime Kiln Road. Photo on the right shows Reese applying seed and hay mulch near structure #23 off John Todd Way. 9/13/06.**





Photo on the left shows a view of the erosion that continues near structure #31 off Costa Lane. (Norwalk Section): Photo on the right shows the silt fence in good condition at structure #11051. 9/13/06



Photo on the left shows crews clipping wire at Kent Road (south). Photo on the right shows the erosion controls along the access road at Kent Road (south). Hay bales remain in place but some stone remains within the wetlands. 9/13/06.





**Photo on the left shows a view of the old foundations remaining near structure #11063. Photo on the right shows crews removing old foundations near structure #11064. 9/13/06.**



**Both photos show recently graded areas in the ROW off Perry Ave (left) and North Seir Hill Road (right). These areas have not yet been graded. 9/13/06.**